

State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

Central Office — 25 Sigourney Street, 7th Floor, Hartford, CT 06105

Promoting Equality and Justice for all People

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT POLICY

PURPOSE

The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) is committed to providing and promoting equal opportunities in all of its activities and services. This commitment includes following the mandates of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), a federal law that makes it unlawful to discriminate against a qualified person with a disability in all aspects of the employment process and in the provision of services and benefits. CHRO also observes all Connecticut laws and regulations that apply to individuals with disabilities.

CHRO strictly prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. Further, it is the policy of CHRO not to exclude persons with a disability from participation in any program or activity. Accordingly, it is the policy of the CHRO to provide access to all of its programs, services and facilities to persons with disabilities in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

What is a disability under the ADA?

Under the ADA, an individual with a disability is any person who (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; (2) has a record of such an impairment; or (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

CHRO will reasonably accommodate the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability, unless the accommodation would impose an undue burden. CHRO will make every reasonable effort to determine and provide the appropriate reasonable accommodation to a qualified individual upon request. CHRO, in its discretion, may require the individual to provide additional information about his or her disability or limitations and the need for an accommodation.

The ADA does not require CHRO to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

How to request an accommodation

In connection with current employment at CHRO or the interview process:

Qualified employees or applicants with disabilities may request accommodations in order to perform e essential functions of their jobs or to gain access to the hiring process. Such requests should me ...ade to the Equal Employment Opportunity Manager at the Department of Labor:

Marla Shiller, EEO Manager Office of Diversity and Equity Ct. Dept. of Labor 200 Follybrook Blvd. Wethersfield, Ct. 06109 860-263-6520 860-263-6529 fax marla.shiller@ct.gov

In connection with other programs, services or activities of CHRO: Qualified individuals with a disability who require an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in program, service, or activity of CHRO should contact Robert Brothers, Executive Director, for assistance in coordinating the request for accommodation. The individual should be prepared to provide a description of his or her specific needs.

Robert J. Brothers Jr. **Executive Director CHRO- Central Office** 25 Sigourney St. 7th Floor Harford Ct. 06106 860-541-3400 860246-5265 fax

~bert.brothers@ct.gov

COMPLAINTS

Complaints that a request for accommodation has been denied or that a CHRO program, service or activity is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be filed with:

Alicia Nunez, Dept. of Administrative Services **Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist** 165 Capital Avenue Hartford, Ct. 06106 860-713-5258 alicia.nunez@ct.gov

> In addition, every complainant may simultaneously file his/her complaint with any of the following enforcement agencies:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)** John F. Kennedy Federal Building 475 Government Center Boston, MA 02203

Phone:-800-669-4000

Fax: 617-565-3196 TTY: 800-669-6820

NO RETALIATION

CHRO strictly forbids retaliation against individuals who request an accommodation or otherwise ercise their rights under the ADA or Connecticut law. Agents of CHRO shall not retaliate against, serce, intimidate, threaten, harass or interfere with any individual exercising or enjoying his or her rights under the ADA or Connecticut law or because an individual aided or encouraged any other individual in the exercising of rights granted or protected by the ADA and/or the Connecticut General Statutes.

Robert J. Brothers, Jr., Executive Director CHRO

Date